



# Howard County Happenings *with Allan H. Kittleman*

June 2016

## A Message from the County Executive



After a collaborative budget process, the County Council last week voted 5-0 to pass my proposed Fiscal Year 2017 capital and operating budgets. Throughout the lengthy process of meetings, public hearings and work sessions, I was struck by the cooperative spirit to get the job done on behalf of Howard County residents.

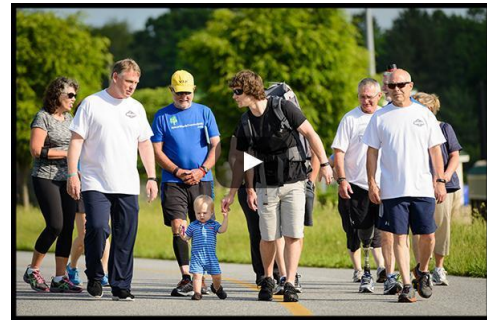
Together, we produced a well-balanced budget that maintains the high level of services and top-notch amenities residents expect, without raising taxes.

The approved operating budget totals \$1.5 billion for all funds, including \$1.06 million in the General Fund. The approved capital budget totals \$316.2 million. Both demonstrate we can live within our means, while sustaining our shared priorities.

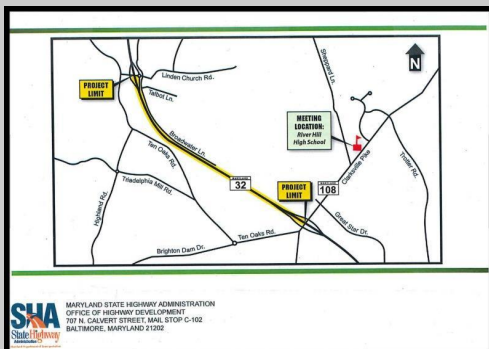
The approved FY 2017 operating and capital budget books will be posted by early July to:  
<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/County-Administration/Budget>.

## Join HoCoWalks

I will launch my new walking initiative, [HoCoWalks](#), on **June 4 at 9 a.m. at Western Regional Park** (meeting in front of the Gary J. Arthur Community Center) demonstrating how simple it is to start a fitness program. Head out any time from 9 to 11 a.m. and enjoy nutritious snacks from the Roving Radish. Walks will take place year-round on the first Saturday of each month in different locations throughout the County. Routes are accessible to all and vary from 1 to 2 miles.



*Join us Saturday!*



Construction scheduled to begin summer 2017 is expected to take two years.

## Public Meeting for MD 32 expansion

On **June 16 at 6:30 p.m.** in **River Hill High School's cafeteria**, the Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration will host a [Public Workshop](#) to update the community on the [planned Phase 1 expansion of MD 32](#). Phase 1 will widen the stretch of MD 32 from MD 108 through Linden Church Road to a four-lane divided highway. This cooperative effort between the County and the State will help reduce congestion and improve safety. If you have questions about this project, plan to attend.

## New, expanded Loan Closet open to share medical equipment

Residents have an expanded resource for obtaining medical equipment they may not be able to afford. I will officially reopen the new [Loan Closet of Howard County](#) on June 15 at 10 a.m. at its new location at 8775 Cloudleap Court, Suite 11 in Columbia. Supported by our partner organizations, the Loan Closet has taken in used equipment and made it available to those in need since 2004. The new location tripled in size allowing for expanded services, offering everything from bathing aids and canes to scooters and chair lifts. It will be open longer hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



*Staff have handled more than 200 phone calls, donations and individual requests in the past month.*



*Oakland Mills continues revitalization planning efforts this month.*

## Columbia Village Updates

### Oakland Mills

Join the [community discussion](#) on **June 6 at 7 p.m.** at **The Other Barn** to kick off the feasibility study that will help shape the Village's future. Project consultant Bolan Smart and county staff will be on hand to explore development options that respond to community goals, while keeping with market realities.

### Long Reach

A [30-page "community sustainability" application](#) was filed June 3 with the Maryland Department of Housing

and Community Development. This important designation opens opportunities for grants and resources to increase the economic viability and livability of the Village Center and surrounding area. A state decision is expected in the Fall.

## Ground Breaking for the Leola Dorsey Day Resource Center

After significant planning and community discussion, I will be joined by a variety of dignitaries and community members on **Wednesday, June 8**, to break ground on a new resource center in Jessup. The three-story center at 10390 Guilford Road will provide crisis intervention services and offer homeless individuals meals, showers, healthcare services, laundry facilities, computer access and other social services. Volunteers of America will operate the facility, including 35 efficiency apartments for chronically homeless clients.



*Rendering of center, which will be complete in Spring 2017.*

## Dates to Remember

**June 11** [ARTreach 2016](#) in Village of Long Reach  
**June 20** [Protecting Vulnerable Adults 2016 Conference](#) at APL Johns Hopkins  
**June 21** [County Executive Town Hall](#) meeting at Slayton House, Village of Wilde Lake

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